



## Helen Benjamin

March 1, 1921 - January 6, 2025

Helen Ades Benjamin, age 103, died January 6 at Kenwood Senior Star in Cincinnati. She was the beloved wife of the late John (Jack) Benjamin for 67 years until 2009, mother of the late Lora Maurer of Brookline, Massachusetts, and mother-in-law of the late George Barham of Northampton, Massachusetts. She will be sadly missed by her daughters Mary Benjamin (Rick Gottfried) of Topanga, California, Sally Benjamin (Rob Kessler) of Albany, California, Ruth Barham of Northampton, Massachusetts, son-in-law Steve Maurer now of South Fallsburg, New York; grandchildren Ram Maurer (Lucia Nicolini), Rose Barham (David Forster), David Kessler, Claire Barham (Allisa Boulette), Annie Maurer (Tona Barahona), Julia Kessler, and Gabriel Gottfried, four great grandchildren, and several devoted nieces and nephews. Helen was born in 1921 and grew up in Lexington, Kentucky, the third of four children of David and Sara (Fox) Ades. She graduated from Wellesley College with a degree in political science, married in 1942, and settled into a busy family life in North Avondale in Cincinnati around 1952. She was active in local politics, especially with the Charter Party, and the campaigns of her friend and neighbor, Bobbie Sterne. A lifelong lover of art, she found fulfillment as a docent at the Cincinnati Art Museum in her later years. She was a devoted and active member of Wise Temple. She considered the Wise congregation her core community.

After her husband's death, she continued to live in their condominium in East Walnut Hills until her move to the Kenwood in 2014. We deeply thank the staff

of the Kenwood for the loving care she received there. We also are grateful to Rabbi Lewis Kamrass for his ongoing presence and loving attention to her over many years.

Her family will miss her wry humor, intelligence, humility, graciousness, and sweetness.

Helen's funeral will take place on Sunday, January 12, 2025 at Isaac M. Wise Temple, 8329 Ridge Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45236 at 1:00PM with visitation beginning at 12:30PM. Services will be LIVE STREAMED [www.wisetemple.org/worship/live-stream/](http://www.wisetemple.org/worship/live-stream/) Burial will directly follow at United Jewish Cemetery Walnut Hills, 3400 Montgomery Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45208. Following burial, there will be a gathering at The Kenwood by Senior Star, 5435 Kenwood Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45227 from 3:30PM to 4:30PM in The Studio on the 6th floor.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Wise Temple [www.wisetemple.org/about/donate](http://www.wisetemple.org/about/donate) or the Cincinnati Art Museum [www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org/give-join/ways-to-give/](http://www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org/give-join/ways-to-give/)

# Cemetery Details

## United Jewish Cemetery Walnut Hills

3400 Montgomery Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45207

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 12. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Wise Temple  
8329 Ridge Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45236

## Funeral Service

JAN 12. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Wise Temple  
8329 Ridge Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45236

## Gathering

JAN 12. 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (ET)

The Kenwood by Senior Star  
5435 Kenwood Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45227

*6TH FLOOR STUDIO*



# Tribute Wall

SS

“ *Helen will be greatly missed on memory care north, she was a pleasure to care for and was always thankful for the little things you did for her....Stacy Stubblefield*

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**Stacy Stubblefield** - January 12, 2025 at 09:04 PM

SB

*Stacy, thank you so much for the loving comments about caring for Mom. We will never forget the kindness and love bestowed upon her by you and the rest of the Memory Care North staff.*

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**Sally Benjamin** - January 17, 2025 at 06:01 AM

ES

“ *Benjamin sisters  
The warmth and welcome of 4009 Rose Hill has always been a special memory. It was a privilege to know your mother.  
Essie Seltz Stillman*

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**Essie Stillman** - January 09, 2025 at 08:52 PM

RB

*Thank you, Essie. Lovely to hear from you.*

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**Ruth Barham** - January 11, 2025 at 05:17 PM

SB

*Essie, I have so many clear memories of you and Lora and your gang of friends at our house on Rose Hill. It is wonderful to hear from you.  
Thank you.*

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**Sally Benjamin** - January 17, 2025 at 06:04 AM

LK

“ *Ruthie and family, so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. What a trooper to make it to 103! I always enjoyed seeing and talking to her at Temple and wherever else I ran into her. Definitely a North Avondale great from our era. May her memory be for a blessing.*  
*Linda Kreindler*

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**Linda Kreindler** - January 09, 2025 at 03:10 PM

RB

*Thank you for writing, Linda. I appreciate it.*

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**Ruth Barham** - January 11, 2025 at 05:18 PM

EP

*This is Erin Powell. I used to bring Helen scones from The BonBonerie. She was a lovely lady. My prayers go out to the family.*

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**Erin Powell** - January 18, 2025 at 06:29 PM

RB

*Oh gosh, Erin, thank you for writing! We 3 daughters (Mary, Sally and I) had lunch at the Bonbonerie after our mother died, and asked about you. That was so kind if you to bring her scones! We were remembering that fondly. Warmly, Ruth*

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**Ruth Barham** - January 30, 2025 at 08:11 AM